

in Spain appears to be tinged by traditions of the worship of Diana (the moon-goddess) to which the ancient Spaniards were particularly affected. The Madonna is commonly represented in Spanish art as standing upon the crescent moon. There is no essential difference between a bull-fight and the games of the Roman circus : now as then a cruel spectacle touches the very heart of the people. Northern manners, on the other hand, have during the past ten centuries been so completely transformed as to present few material traces of their former complexion. In the north Christianity has changed its character, and has become a religion of morality rather than of ceremonial.

And there appears to be a momentous difference between the north and the south in the relative strength of the two instincts which have been described in Chapter IV as reproductive and provident. These are the mainsprings of the two leading objects of life—to perpetuate our kind, and, by foresight and industry, to ameliorate our conditions. The former is undoubtedly more insistent amongst Mediterranean than amongst Baltic peoples. In southern countries the young attain sexual maturity earlier : this is a physical peculiarity which can hardly leave character unaffected. The passion of love, which in the north is an episode, in the south is an abiding

stimulus
judging by their literature, it is hardly
paradoxi-
cal to say that southerners think only
of love.
whereas the people of the north have a
thousand
interests. We may figure to ourselves
the in-
fluence of this propensity upon the
national
character if we recollect what it was to
be in love
ourselves. So affected, we exhibited
some of the
leading features of the Mediterranean
tempera-
ment : we were impulsive, little
concerned with